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may be found on an occasional branch. But it is certainly true that this method of growth is exceptional and not the regular thing, as it is in *L. complanatum*.

The differences in the number, form, and attitude of the branches, in the number of strobiles, and the season of maturity, are sufficient to characterize the separate species, but a written comparison gives but a faint notion of the striking difference in the appearance of the two plants as they grow together. At Willoughby Lake, Vt., where both species grow in abundance, with *L. tristachyum* near by, I found several intermediate forms, also considerable variation from the type in both species. With sufficient study, the group may prove as prolific in matter for discussion as the ternate botrychia.

The recent discovery of *L. complanatum* in Hartland, Vt., by Mr. H. G. Rugg, indicates that this species may be looked for considerably south of its supposed northerly range.

LASELL SEMINARY,
AUBURNDALE, MASS.

Edward Palmer

WILLIAM EDWIN SAFFORD

Than longen folk to gon on pilgrimages,
And *palmers* for to seken straunge strondes.
Chaucer, Gen. Prol. to Canterbury Tales.

Dr. Edward Palmer, whose name is known to botanists of all nations, died at his home in Washington, D. C., a few minutes past midnight of Palm Sunday, April 9, 1911, after an illness of a few days. His whole life had been devoted to science, which he served, not as an investigator in any special line, but as an explorer and collector of unrivaled merit. In the field of botany alone he is distinguished as the discoverer of 1.173 new species, includ-

ing flowering plants and ferns, with many more of his later collecting still remaining to be described.

He was the son of a professional florist and horticulturist, of Hockwold cum Wilton, in the county of Norfolk, England, where he was born January 12, 1831. Coming to this country at the age of eighteen, he settled at Cleveland, Ohio, where he formed the acquaintance of Dr. Jared Kirtland, one of the most eminent scientists of his day, and one of the earliest members of the American Academy of Science. From him he learned the art of collecting and preserving objects of natural history, thus laying the foundation of his future career, and through Kirtland's influence he was, in 1853, appointed naturalist of the *Water Witch*, on her celebrated expedition to Paraguay, which led to our war with that country. From that time until within a short time of his death, he was an ardent and untiring collector, going on one expedition after another, and returning with material of botanical, zoölogical, and ethnological interest, which has been distributed among the museums of this country and Europe.

A sketch of his life, read before the Botanical Society of Washington, January 10, 1911, on the occasion of the 80th anniversary of his birth, was published in *Popular Science Monthly* 77: 341-354. 1911, and distributed by the Society in separate form. It contains an account of most of his early expeditions, and of his services during the civil war and after its close, as an acting assistant surgeon in the United States Army.

He was congratulated on the success of his work by such eminent botanists as Professor Asa Gray, Dr. J. Torrey, and Dr. G. Engelmann, who expressed their appreciation of it in their published works. Professor Gray dedicated to him the genus *Palmerella*, stating that he did so in acknowledgment of Dr. Palmer's "indefatigable and fruitful explorations of the botany of the southwest-

ern frontiers, from Arizona to the islands of Lower California, in which region he has accomplished more than all his predecessors." Among the botanists whose friendship Dr. Palmer greatly valued, and of whom he always spoke with gratitude, were Dr. George Vasey, Sereno Watson, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Brandegee, and Dr. C. C. Parry, whom he accompanied on his first mission to Mexico, in 1878.

From that date until the end of his life he made frequent visits to Mexico, often visiting unexplored fields opened up by railroads, from which he secured great numbers of species new to science. In 1880 he made extensive collections in the states of San Luis Potosi, Coahuila, and Nuevo Leon. Preliminary lists of the ferns he collected while associated with Dr. Parry and when alone were made out by Professor Daniel Cady Eaton, and published, together with a list of the flowering plants by Sereno Watson, in volume 18 of the Proceedings of the American Academy.

In 1885 he collected in the mountains of southwestern Chihuahua; in 1886, in the state of Jalisco, principally near Guadalajara, the capital; and in 1887, near Guaymas, Sonora, and across the Gulf of California, on the shore of Lower California. Lists of the plants collected on these expeditions were published in the Proceedings of the American Academy, volumes 21, 22, and 24.

He afterwards visited the Mexican states of Colima, Sinaloa, and Guerrero, and the territory of Tepic. His later collections have never been worked up as units; but publications of new species of his collecting are continually appearing. He revisited the states of San Luis Potosi, Coahuila, and Chihuahua, and he made two excursions to the mountains of Durango, and to the more tropical country of Tamaulipas.

Among the new species of ferns based upon types of his collecting are the following:

ASPLENIUM MODESTUM Maxon, Bull. Torrey Club **31**: 657. 1904. TYPE: *Palmer 162*, collected in 1885, at the Hacienda San Miguel, near Batopilas, in the mountains of southwestern Chihuahua, Mexico.

CHEILANTHES AEMULA Maxon, Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **10**: 495. 1908. TYPE: U. S. National Herbarium no. 572224 (*Palmer 187*), collected in 1907 in a river canyon near Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico.

CHEILANTHES MEIFOLIA D. C. Eaton, Proc. Am. Acad. **18**: 185. 1883. TYPE: *Palmer 1377*, collected in 1880 near Guajuco, state of Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

CHEILANTHES MONCLOVIENSIS Baker, Annals Bot. **5**: 210. 1891. TYPE: *Palmer 1378*, collected in 1880 at Soledad in the state of Coahuila, Mexico.

CHEILANTHES PALMERI Eaton, Proc. Am. Acad. **22**: 464. 1887. TYPE: *Palmer 223*, collected in 1886 on a shady bank in a deep canyon near Guadalajara, state of Jalisco, Mexico.

GYMNOPTERIS SUBCORDATA (Eat. & Dav.) Und. Bull. Torrey Club **29**: 628. 1902. *Gymnogramme subcordata* Eat. & Dav. Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **5**: 138. *pl. 16*. 1897. TYPE: *Palmer 1416*, collected in 1891 at Imala, state of Sinaloa, Mexico.

NOTHOLAENA AURANTIACA D. C. Eaton, Proc. Am. Acad. **22**: 462. 1887. TYPE: *Palmer 83*, collected in 1886 near the Barranca of Guadalajara, state of Jalisco Mexico.

NOTHOLAENA PALMERI Hook. Ic. Pl. *pl. 1678*. 1887. TYPE: *Parry & Palmer 991*, collected in 1878 in the mountains near the city of San Luis Potosi.

NOTHOLAENA LEONINA Maxon (MS.). TYPE: *Palmer 1381*, collected in February 1880 near Monterey, state of Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

PELLAEA NOTABILIS Maxon, Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **10**: 500. 1908. TYPE: U. S. National Herbarium no. 572223, (*Palmer 234*), collected in 1907 near Victoria, state of Tamaulipas, Mexico.

POLYPODIUM MAXONII C. Chr. Ind. Fil. 543. 1906. *Polypodium firmulum* Maxon, Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **7**: 274. *pl.* 61. *f.* 3. 1903; not Baker, 1893. TYPE: U. S. National Herbarium no. 397906 (*Palmer 448*), collected in 1902 in the mountains of Alvarez, state of San Luis Potosi, alt. 8,000 feet, from the shaded under sides of large oaks.

POLYSTICHUM SOLITARIUM (Maxon) Und. Contr. U. S. Nat. Herb. **10**: 493. 1908. *Polystichum munitum solitarium* Maxon, Fern Bull. **11**: 39. 1903. TYPE: *Palmer 102*, collected in 1875 on the northern end of Guadalupe Island, off the Pacific coast of Lower California.

Like the palmers of old, who returned from one pilgrimage only to start out afresh, he continued his chosen work until the very end. His last pilgrimage was in 1910, to the vicinity of Tampico, on the Gulf of Mexico.

To the meeting of the Botanical Society of Washington already mentioned, he was escorted in a carriage by members appointed for the purpose. He was placed in the seat of honor, and addresses were made by members telling of his life's work. Letters were also read from various eminent men of science not residing in Washington, all of them testifying to the valuable services he had rendered. At the close of the exercises he was presented with an appropriate birthday gift by the members of the society. The venerable traveler received the congratulations of those present with tears streaming down his cheeks, doubtless realizing that this was his valedictory. It proved indeed to be a final farewell. He left his room only once or twice afterward, and in just three months after attending his birthday celebration he breathed his last.

WASHINGTON, D. C.